Low credit deposit ratio in the eastern and north eastern region

2747. SHRI RAMNARAYAN GOSWAMI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) what factors are responsible for the low credit deposit ratio in the eastern and north eastern regions; and

(b) what concrete steps are being taken to improve the situation there?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) According to a Study conducted by Reserve Bank of India (RBI) the factors responsible for low credit: deposit ratio in the Eastern and North-Eastern Regions can be broadly categorised as follows:— (i) low credit absorption capacity; (ii) high level of industrial sickness; (iii) unsatisfactory industrial climate; (iv) lack of uninterrupted supply of power to industries; (b) unsatisfactory backward and forward linkages.

(b) Credit deployment by banks in various States is monitored by State Level Bankers' Committee (SLBCs). RBI has reported that NABARD jointly with RBI appointed a Committee on agricultural productivity in Eastern India and constituted a Study Group to review the position of credit: deposit ratio in North-Eastern Region. The reports of the Committee and Study Group were also sent to State Governments for implementation of their recommendations.

Para-military forces in Tripura

2748. SHRI NARAYAN KAR: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of armed and para-military forces in terms of companies, at present, stationed in Tripura; and

(b) the number of clashes and encounters that had taken place between them and the Tripura National volunteers during the period from 29th January, 1988 to 10th March, 1988?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) The maximum possible assistance to Tripura has been provided by the Central Government by way of deployment of para-military forces. It will not be in the public interest to disclose the strength of para-military forces stationed in Tripura at present.

(b) Only two encounters took place between CRPF and TNV extremists during the period from 29.1.88 to 10.3.88. No casualty had occurred on either side.

Tax relief to tea industry in Assam

2749. SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration for giving tax relief to tea industry in Assam so that a good amount of profit earned by the industry may be ploughed back to the rejuvination of tea gardens and modernisation of machines and equipments which are by and large old and outdated resulting in low production; and

(b) if so, what are the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI AJIT PANJA): (a) and (b) There is no such proposal under Indirect Taxes.